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SOURCE Kung-shang Jih-pao.

SAYS MAO FACES DIFFICULTIES IN PURGE;
CH'EN I RELIEVED OF MILITARY ASSIGNMENT

EXPECT DIFFICULTIES IN IMPLEMENTING PACT -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 21 Feb 50

Taihoku, 20 February -- Nationalists foresee that one of Mao Tse-tung's most difficult tasks after he returns to Pei-p'ing is the carrying out of the secret articles of the Sino-Soviet Pact. One method is the concentrated hammering on the necessity for close Sino-Soviet relations. Another is the purging of those who do not believe in close Sino-Soviet cooperation.

If the latter course is taken, Mao will come up against a complicated problem. For example, Ch'en I (Ueda: 12864, 5820), the mayor of Shang-hai, was relieved of his duties as the commanding general of the 3d Field Force, but the majority of the cadres in this military unit are loyal to him. It will be quite difficult for Mao to purge all of these cadres.

RELIEVED AS COMMANDING GENERAL, 3D FIELD FORCE -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 21 Feb 50

Taihoku, 20 February -- Based on information originating from KMT sources, it is reported that Ch'en I, mayor of Shang-hai, has been relieved of his duties as the commanding general of the CCF 3d Field Force and has been replaced by Su Yu (8664, 10709). This leaves Ch'en I without a military assignment, since Jao Sou-shih (13641, 6511, 7954) is now the chairman of the East China District Military and Political Council.

However, it is reported that Ch'en I still wields considerable influence over more than half of the cadres in the 3d Field Force.

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